

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A scheme for distributing executable programs through
a network from a program distribution device to a client
5 device having a tamper resistant processor which is
provided with a unique secret key and a unique public key
corresponding to the unique secret key in advance is
disclosed. In this scheme, a first communication path is
set up between the program distribution device and the
10 client device, and a second communication path directly
connecting the program distribution device and the tamper
resistant processor is set up on the first communication
path. Then, the encrypted program is transmitted from the
program distribution device to the tamper resistant
15 processor through the second communication path.